

**WRITING ASSESSMENT**  
Write your final composition here.

**G 22a**

For a student who has had four years of high school and decent grades, the Gateway Test, should not be a requirement for graduation. There are a plethora of reasons behind this decision. Inability to test well, not passing the test but meeting all other graduation requirements, and being forced to settle with a G.E.D. after completing high school are some of these reasons.

Many have experienced test anxiety or the condition of being unable to take an exam due to heightened stress levels. When people suffering from this disorder are forced to take standardized tests, the results ~~don't~~ do not usually comply with their report card grades. However, this does not suggest that the suffering student is unable to think, write, or acquire a job for himself after high school. To hinder a student as such is biased and unfair. According to a survey taken recently in American high schools, students often overthink while taking exams such as Gateway, and the smarter student suffers.

If all graduation requirements are met, a student who does not pass the gateway should be allotted his diploma anyway. When people pay attention, they will understand that in the four year career that is high school, tests have been administered weekly. Some may think, surely, if a student tests so often, standardized exams will

## G 22b

come easy. Well, upon further inspection, it is noticed that the weekly tests are administered after time has passed for a student to grow confidence through studying. Also, these tests are passed more often than Gateway tests even though they are harder.

How would it feel to ~~be class vate~~ have excellent averages in all classes, leadership ability, or support from a community and suddenly be forced to settle for a certificate of completion or G.E.D. after high school? To be stripped of the opportunities worked for by a test is unreasonable. Because of standardized tests, hundreds of high school graduates have not received proper recognition for their work. Unable to march with their class or have a graduation ceremony only, these students are shunned as inadequate or deficient.

In conclusion, Gateway tests as a requirement for graduation should be reconsidered. Some of the greatest minds have been undiscovered or discouraged due to failure in an hour of bubbling in letters. Einstein himself was a college dropout. For psychological hindrance, other supporting factors saying

### Score Point: 6

This response reflects an outstanding degree of proficiency in persuasive writing skills. The writer voices a strong opinion that exit tests should not be a high school graduation requirement. The key ideas are specific, well developed, and clearly illustrated (inability to test well, not passing the test but meeting all other graduation requirements, being forced to settle with a G.E.D.). Syntactic variety and facility in the use of language are clearly displayed and sustained (heightened stress levels, to hinder a student as such is biased, and these students are shunned as inadequate or deficient). The response is well organized, and a strong persuasive tone is demonstrated throughout.